



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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INTERPRETIVE OPINION

Pursuant to §103-50, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), all buildings and facilities constructed by, or on behalf of the State or any county, shall conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and amendments. In accordance to HRS §103-50 and Chapter 11-217, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the Disability and Communication Access Board has authority to issue interpretive opinions to HRS §103-50 design standards.

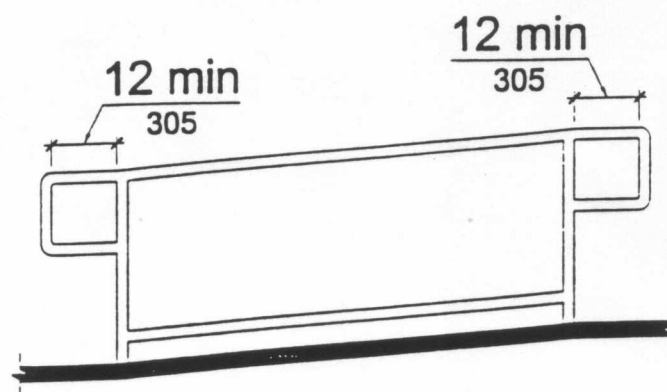
Docket: **DCAB 2001-01:** Interpretive Opinion on ADAAG 4.8.5 (2), Ramp Handrails, requesting a clarification of where the top and bottom 12" min. handrail extension should be designated, per Figure 17 which includes the "rounded" portion, or per Figure 19 which excludes that portion.

Summary: More explanatory than the graphics, the text states that the 12" extension shall be "beyond the top and bottom of the ramp segment and shall be parallel with the floor or ground surface." The dimension should be designated where the wrists start to twist, the handrail gripping surface starts to bend and is no longer parallel to the ground. Although applying to stairs, Figure 19 shows the handrail bend starting where it is parallel with the ground surface, exclusive of the "round portion".

Ruling: For buildings or facilities subject to HRS § 103-50,

ADAAG 4.8.5(2), Ramp Handrails

Ramp handrails shall extend horizontally above the landing for 12 inches (305 mm) minimum beyond the top and bottom of ramp runs. The returned portion of the handrail shall be exclusive of the 12-inch minimum dimension.



[Rul: 01/01] (Auth and Imp: HRS §103-50)

If you have any questions or comments regarding this ruling, please call us at 586-8121.

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